

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Quality
Water Quality Certification Program

**Public Notice
Of Application for Water Quality Certification**

Pursuant to federal law (Title 33, United States Code, Section 1341; Clean Water Act Section 401), applicants for a federal license or permit for activities which may discharge to waters of the United States must seek Water Quality Certification from the state or Indian tribe with jurisdiction. Such Certification is based on a finding that the discharge will meet water quality standards and other applicable requirements. In California, Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Board) issue or deny Certification for discharges within their geographical jurisdiction. The State Water Resources Control Board has this responsibility for projects affecting waters within multiple RWQCB jurisdictions. The following information is provided in satisfaction of the public notice requirements of Section 3858, Title 23, of the California Code of Regulations, which govern the State's Certification Program.

Applicant: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District Office

Applicant Contact: Crystal Marquez

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Project Name: US Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, Los Angeles District (LAD) Proposal for Regional General Permit (RGP) No. 41 for Removal of Invasive, Exotic Plants (Corps File Number SPL-2003-01094-CLM)

Affected Region: Portions of California in the Los Angeles District of the Corps of Engineers (Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Diego, San Bernadino, Imperial, Ventura, Santa Barbara, Mono, Inyo, and San Luis Obispo Counties).

Project Description: The Los Angeles District (District) of the US Army Corps of Engineers is proposing to re-issue its Regional General Permit (RGP) 41 which will allow the removal of invasive weeds for the purpose of habitat recovery. RGP 41 will authorize an unknown number of projects which involve the mechanized or chemical removal of specified exotic, invasive plants from waters, including wetlands and riparian areas, within the Corps LA District. Permitted activities under RGP 41 include: application of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Pesticides Regulation-approved herbicides; mechanized land clearing and removal of living or dead plants; stockpiling of extracted plant materials and debris; and construction of access roads. Activities are limited by season, manner of application, stand condition, and other factors to limit adverse impacts to the environment.

State Board staff are proposing to regulate this project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and/or Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act authority. In addition, staff will consider all comments submitted in writing and received at this office by mail during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this letter and ends at 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the comment period. If

you have any questions, please contact staff member Darren Bradford at (916) 341-5558, or at dbradford@waterboards.ca.gov, or Bill Orme at (916) 341-5464, or at <mailto:borme@waterboards.ca.gov> within 21 days of the posting of this notice.

Date Posted: October 9, 2008

State Water Resources

Control Board Staff Contact:

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State Water Resources Control Board
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Note: No regulatory decision on the application is implied or intended in this public notice.